

NEWS RELEASE

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Crimes Against Property Team convicts 21 defendants of property crimes

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Twenty-one defendants pled guilty to property crimes in Mecklenburg County Superior Court during the week of May 22, 2017. The convictions were for crimes that included breaking or entering, felony larceny and other charges. The defendants entered their guilty pleas before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis, Superior Court Judge.

Among the defendants who were convicted were:

Tonya Kirk, 42, pled guilty to 1) two counts of breaking or entering a motor vehicle, 2) two counts of felony larceny and 3) two counts of misdemeanor larceny. She was sentenced to 9-20 months in prison. In March 2016, a Cornelius car dealership reported a break-in of the company trailer. Among the items taken were six keys to vehicles in the lot. A Toyota Supra had also been broken into, and a Lexus was stolen. Surveillance footage showed Kirk and another individual entering the Toyota Supra. Traffic camera footage outside the lot showed the Lexus being driven away, followed by a gold Chevrolet Blazer. Using this footage and other surveillance from the surrounding area, police connected Kirk and her codefendant to two other vehicle break-ins at businesses near the dealership the same morning. Pawn records and surveillance showed that Kirk and her codefendant pawned items taken from these thefts at a pawn shop on the same day as the break-ins.

Christopher Aycock, 32, pled guilty to 1) obtaining property by false pretenses and 2) forgery of an endorsement. Aycock was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison.

Note: Almost all guilty pleas entered in criminal administrative court are the result of an agreed upon plea arrangement between the State and the defendant, which is then approved by the sentencing judge. For more information about why most cases must be resolved by plea negotiation instead of jury trial, please visit the "Understanding Criminal Court" section of the DA's website at www.charmeckda.com.

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